

Democrats Point to Record Of Achievement As Argument

Party Platform Promises Continuation of Foreign and Mexican Policies, Tariff for Revenue Only, Adequate Preparedness, and Philippines Freedom.

St. Louis, June 16.—The following is the partial text of the more important planks of the Democratic platform adopted today:

We endorse the administration of Woodrow Wilson. It speaks for itself. It is the best exposition of sound Democratic policy at home and abroad.

We challenge comparison of our record, our keeping of pledges and our constructive legislation, with those of any party of any time.

We found our country hampered by special privilege, a vicious tariff, obsolete banking laws and an insatiable currency. Our foreign affairs were dominated by commercial interests for their selfish ends. The Republican party, despite repeated pledges, was impotent to correct abuses which it had fostered. Under our administration, under a leadership which has never faltered, these abuses have been corrected and our people have been freed therefrom.

Tariff.

We affirm our belief in the doctrine of a tariff for the purpose of providing sufficient revenue for the operation of the government economically administered, and unreservedly endorse the Underwood tariff law as truly exemplifying that doctrine. We recognize that tariff rates are necessarily subject to change to meet changing conditions in the world's production and trade. The events of the last two years have brought about many momentous changes. In some respects their effects are yet conjectural and wait to be disclosed, particularly in regard to our foreign trade.

Two years of a war which has directly involved most of the chief industrial nations of the world, and which has indirectly affected the life and industry of all nations, are bringing about economic changes more varied, and far-reaching than the world has ever before experienced. In order to ascertain just what those changes may be the Democratic Congress is providing for a nonpartisan tariff commission to make impartial and thorough study of every economic fact that may throw light either upon our past or upon our future fiscal policy with regard to the imposition of taxes on imports or with regard to the changed and changing conditions under which our trade is carried on. We cordially endorse this timely proposal and declare ourselves in sympathy with the principle and purpose of shaping legislation within that field in accordance with clearly established facts rather than in accordance with trade demands of selfish interests or upon information provided largely, if not exclusively, by them.

Preparedness.

We favor the maintenance of an army fully adequate to the requirements of order and safety and of the protection of the nation's rights, the fullest development of modern methods of sea and coast defense and the maintenance of an adequate reserve of citizens trained to arms and prepared to safeguard the people of the United States and fully equal to the international tasks which the United States hopes and expects to take a part in performing. The plans and enactments of the present Congress afford substantial proof of our purpose in this exigent matter.

Government Employment.

We hold that the life, health and strength of the men, women and children of the nation are its greatest asset, and that in the conservation of these the Federal government, wherever it acts as the employer of labor, should both on its own account and as an example, put into effect the following principles of just employment:

- 1.—A living wage for all employees.
- 2.—A working day not to exceed eight hours, with one day of rest in seven.
- 3.—The adoption of safety appliances and the establishment of thoroughly sanitary conditions of labor.
- 4.—Adequate compensation for industrial accidents.
- 5.—The standards of the "uniform child labor law," wherever minors are employed.
- 6.—Such provisions for decency, comfort and health in the employment of women as should be accorded the mothers of the race.
- 7.—An equitable retirement law providing for the retirement of superannuated and disabled employees of the Civil Service to the end that a higher standard of efficiency may be maintained.

We believe also that the adoption of similar principles should be urged and applied in the legislation of the States with regard to labor within their borders, and that through every possible agency the life and health of the people of the nation should be conserved.

Philippine Islands.

We heartily endorse the provisions of the bill recently passed by the House of

right to choose the sovereignty under which it shall live; that the small states of the world have a right to enjoy from other nations the same respect for their rights of people and nations; and we believe that the time has come when it is the duty of the United States to join with the other nations of the world in any feasible association that will effectively serve these principles, to maintain inviolate the complete security of the highway of the seas for the common and unhindered use of all nations.

Mexico.

The Monroe doctrine is reasserted as a principle of Democratic faith. The doctrine guarantees the independent republics of the two Americas against aggression from another continent. It implies, as well, the most scrupulous regard upon our part for the sovereignty of each of them.

The want of a stable, responsible government in Mexico, capable of repressing and punishing marauders and bandit bands, who have not only taken the lives, and seized and destroyed the property of American citizens in that country, but have insolently invaded our soil, made war upon and murdered our people thereon, has rendered it necessary temporarily to occupy, by our armed forces, a portion of the territory of that friendly state. Until, by the restoration of law and order therein, a repetition of such incursions is improbable, the necessity for their remaining must continue as it does.

Intervention implying as it does, military subjugation, is revolting to the people of the United States, notwithstanding the provocation to this course has been great, and should be resorted to, if at all, only as a last resort. The stubborn resistance of the President and his advisers to every demand and suggestion to enter upon it, is creditable alike to them and to the people in whose name he speaks.

We favor the maintenance of an army fully adequate to the requirements of order and safety and of the protection of the nation's rights, the fullest development of modern methods of sea and coast defense and the maintenance of an adequate reserve of citizens trained to arms and prepared to safeguard the people of the United States and fully equal to the international tasks which the United States hopes and expects to take a part in performing. The plans and enactments of the present Congress afford substantial proof of our purpose in this exigent matter.

International Relations.

The Democratic administration has throughout the present war scrupulously and successfully held to the old paths of neutrality and of the peaceful pursuit of the legitimate objects of our national life, which statesmen of all parties have prescribed for themselves in America since the beginning of our history. But the circumstances of the last two years have revealed necessities of international action which no former generation can have foreseen. We hold that it is the duty of the United States to use its power not only to make itself safe at home, but also to make secure its just interests throughout the world, and, both for this end and in the interest of humanity, to assist the world in securing settled peace and justice.

We believe that every people has the

Representatives, further promoting self-government in the Philippine Islands as being in fulfillment of the policy declared by the Democratic party in its last national platform, and we reiterate our indorsement of the purpose of ultimate independence for the Philippine Islands expressed in the preamble of that measure.

Woman Suffrage.

We recommend the extension of the franchise to the women of the country by the States upon the same terms as to men.

Territories.

We favor granting to the people of Alaska, Hawaii and Porto Rico the traditional territorial government accorded to all territories of the United States since the beginning of our government, and we believe the officials appointed to administer the government of those several territories should be qualified by previous bona fide residence.

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SUFFRAGE PLANK AROUSES STORM

Issue Furnishes Only Spirited Row of Entire Democratic Convention.

(By the Sun News Service.) St. Louis, Mo., June 16.—The Tammany delegate who bet that the Democratic national convention could not possibly pack up for home without at least one fight knew his people. The only argument a talkative assembly had in its arsenal escaped from the discreet precincts of the platform committee room and came shrieking for attention to the convention floor.

Woman suffrage was debated in an open convention of either one of the old parties for the first time. For the first time the mere delegate, so frankly impotent for action or discussion, had the chance to say whether he thought a woman had sense enough to vote, whether the Democratic party was taking a political risk in approving the principle of her right to vote, and whether the States should settle the question individually. It was a good, old-fashioned lively row, with statesmen setting red in the face with galleries in a yellow frenzy, with delegates in uproar.

They put through the plank committing the Democratic party to the principle of woman suffrage, and leaving suffrage laws to the States, for not after the harmonious chanting of the greatness of Woodrow Wilson had been completely ruined by the controversy over impertinent, troublesome woman.

The lone argument arrived late, because Senator William Joel Stone and his colleagues of the resolutions committee had been wrestling with it at the Planters Hotel for forty-eight hours.

Session Rather Quiet.

The last session was very quiet except for the row over suffrage. The rest of the platform was approved with scarcely more than a patter of hands.

Rabbi Leon Harrison, of St. Louis, offered the prayer. Chairman James put A. Mitchell Palmer, of Pennsylvania, forward to explain that the platform committee was still tussling.

Senator James called Senator Reed, of Missouri, to the platform to explain the convention. He lit into the Republican party, asserting that it had not dared at Chicago to nominate anyone of its leaders who had been associated with party politics in the past six years, and that it had to go into the catacombs to find a candidate. He attacked Mr. Hughes for "dragging the Supreme Court into politics."

Senator James introduced Senator Stone at 120 p. m. Senator Walsh, of Montana, was asked to read the platform.

There was applause as Walsh voiced the party's position on Americanism, on preparedness, and on the achievements of the Wilson administration in finance, social reforms, and diplomacy.

It took forty-four minutes to lay the platform before the convention, and at 120 p. m. Senator Walsh moved the adoption of the majority report, the one that has just been read. There was a hubbub instantly, a clash of voices. Delegates sprang up in various parts of the hall to denounce the suffrage plank. Delegate Martin Lomasney, of Boston, planted himself in an aisle and bellowed for recognition. Chairman James avoided Lomasney for a minute or two, but the Bostonian shrieked like a siren, and for the sake of reasonable quiet James gave him a nod.

"You can't choke me off," Lomasney yelled. "This is a Democratic convention, it is, and I've a right to be heard, I have."

merely held that suffrage was a State matter and did not commit the party on the issue.

Suffragists in the galleries hissed Ferguson roundly. Ferguson declared it was not because the minority loved woman suffrage, but that they loved her more, that they made the dissenting report.

Senator Stone replied on the part of the majority, declaring that the "Texan made a man of straw and demolished him."

Senator Pittman, of Nevada, was next introduced by Senator Stone, as a proponent of the majority resolution. Pittman made a rousing woman suffrage speech, supported by enthusiastic cheering by the galleries, but vigorous hisses came from sections of the floor.

Despite Delegate Lomasney's insistent yells, James put the question and the platform was adopted with a roar of yells. The Massachusetts delegate hurried out of the hall shaking his fist and muttering.

Delegate Palmer, of Pennsylvania, presented a resolution providing for methods of selection of delegates, which was adopted.

The convention then, at 3:11, adjourned sine die.

CONVENTION SIDELIGHTS

(By the International News Service.) St. Louis, June 16.—Morris Keohokaloie, delegate from Hawaii, has had the hardest time getting about St. Louis of any one of the Democratic visitors. His troubles arise over the difficulty in pronouncing his name. He was a member of the rules committee and when he showed up for the first meeting he was presented to the other members. Former Gov. Len V. Stephens, of Missouri, was the first to tackle it.

"Glad to meet you, Mr. Keoki!" he began, and then stopped. Keohokaloie saved the situation by saying: "Just call me Morris."

William Jennings Bryan must get tired of the everlasting handshaking that is forced upon him. But if he does he fails to show it, as he always has a smile and a handshake for everyone who offers his hand. Mr. Bryan's seat in the press stand at the Coliseum was next to an aisle where the delegates passed, and nine out of every ten stopped and shook hands.

Charles F. Murphy, chief of Tammany Hall; William J. Bryan, and a delegate from Mississippi all got on the same elevator at the Hotel Jefferson. The Mississippiian recognized Mr. Bryan.

"How do you do, Mr. Bryan?" he exclaimed.

Mr. Bryan returned the greeting smilingly just as the car stopped at his floor. The Mississippiian then turned to Mr. Murphy, unaware of his identity. "That was W. J. Bryan, the old boy himself," he declared. "He certainly is a great old man, isn't he?"

There was no reply. Mr. Murphy left the car at the next floor.

The Oregon delegates yesterday nominated a Democratic standard-bearer for four years from now. As they marched about the convention hall yesterday in an ovation given Senator Ollie James they chanted: "James for President four years from now." The cry was taken up by many in the galleries.

Vendors of sandwiches who had been caught without sufficient supplies at the first session of the convention on Wednesday were fooled again yesterday when they had an over-abundance owing to the quick adjournment.

Auto Dashes Over Bank.

Dedham, Mass., June 16.—An automobile containing Mr. and Mrs. Edward P. Benson, and Mrs. J. Hume, of Elizabeth, N. J., went over a fifteen-foot bank when Benson, driving, tried to avoid a car coming up the hill on the wrong side of the road. Mr. Benson was thrown forward against the windshield, suffering a broken nose.

Pageant Is Postponed.

The Shakespearean tercentenary pageant of the colored schools, to have been held last night, this afternoon and night, has been postponed for a week on account of rain. This is the second postponement.

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